

**Pawtuxet River Authority
And Watershed Council
Historic Harris Mill
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**Long and Short Term Planning Committee Meeting
February 10, 2009**

Board Members Present: Robert Nero, Jack Donovan, Jim McCaughey, Glenn Warfield, Fritz Benz, Rita Holahan, Scott Goodinson, Paul Lockett, Robert Nero, Jim McCaughey, Ginny Leslie, Jack Lancellotta, Ross Adrian

Location: West Warwick WWTF

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman Benz at 7:00 PM.

Canoe Launch Event

Scott put forward a question regarding payment for printing services – Fritz said his son Don will make arrangements and pay for printing. Rita stated that a budget for the overall project needs to be put

together and that she has started putting together a sponsorship plan. Fritz pointed out that Glen and Paul will handle and track sponsors.

Discussion took place regarding a formal event name: Fritz suggested using the name “River Run” Ginny suggested “Pawtuxet Paddle” Rita stated that there is a community based organization “Carratas House” that has a program coordinator with experience coordinating canoe projects and may be able to help with this event or possibly another future project. Discussion took place regarding whether or not the event should be a race or just a canoeing event. Bob suggested holding off on the race for a future event. Scott brought-up the issue of having waivers at the event. Bob stated that the PRA always has waivers for these types of events. Jack L. asked if the event should have a more specific name.

Rita stated that June 6th and the last week-end in June look to be the best times to hold this event.

Fritz asked if we should charge attendees and if we should award people for attendance.

Paul noted that we need to check with Rhodes to make sure they have no event going on - Jack Donovan will make contact with Rhodes. Ross discussed some events that taken place in the Blackstone River and pointed out that other race events, can and have charged fees to participate.

Bob noted that the size of the facility is very limited. Discussion took place regarding contacting the industrial park to use parking space. A suggestion was made that perhaps it would be best to have everyone park at Rhodes with arrangements to have these event attendees shuttled back to the launch site. Fritz asked Jack to provide a layout for the final brochure. Bob stated that the Shriners own the Rhodes Property.

Scott established a schedule - 10:00 AM Canoe Launch Dedication followed by food – coffee and doughnuts. Rita stated that Whole Foods may be willing to donate food. Bob and Paul indicated that from the Launch to Rhodes is about a 3 hour paddle. Bob stated that coffee and doughnuts would be adequate.

Ginny asked about the take out location at Belmont Park.

Ross asked if the PRA wants to have the Boy Scouts at the event – it was stated that if they are going to canoe their presence would be appreciated.

Ginny suggested that the PRA have a booth with a canoe at the Gaspé Days in Warwick event on Memorial Day weekend and pointed out that this would be a great opportunity to publicize the canoe event.

Rita stated that the Blue Wave Alliance's Web Page has a posting of the Howard Site.

Tasks to be completed for the next meeting:

- Prepare Flyer/Handbill - Draft – Jack L. – e-mail out before next meeting**
- Contact Rhodes**
- Develop list of launch neighbors**
- Check status of river**

Other needed tasks/items

- Contact Printer**
- Design Poster Board Signs**
- Check on printing of hats/t-shirts**
- Decide on the need for an entrance fee for the canoe event**

Next Sub-Committee Meeting – March 10th – location open.